

soon had it secured in a cigarette box. As usual I hurried home and soon contacted Mr. Anthony Valletta, who after a few minutes was at my place. The specimen turned out to be a male.

The only two previous documented records for this species had been *Danaus chrysippus* L. var. *alcippus* Cram. The first record was taken on the 4th June of 1923, by Col. Harford in Hastings Gardens at Valletta, and the 2nd in 1952, 29 years later, by Mr. Anthony Valletta, two males taken on the 10th April from Wield is-Sewda, Attard. In the same month of the same year (1952) two more were observed at Villa Gomerino — limits of Rabat.

It is of interest to note that like Mr. Anthony Valletta observed when he collected his two specimens back in 1952, we had a very large influx of Painted Ladies (*V. cardui*) and Small Whites (*P. rapae*) during the same week this specimen was taken. Although this butterfly has a wide distribution, from Africa across Asia into the Indo-Australian region, the vagrants we get in Malta must be coming from Africa (North and West). The var. *alcippus* Cram. is found only in Africa. The fact that the species is recorded as a vagrant on our Islands shows that they are to be considered as accidentals, and not a normal migratory species to this part of the world.—References: 1969, Williams, J. G., *Butterflies of Africa*. Collins. 1971, Valletta A. *The Butterflies of the Maltese Islands*. Progress Press Co. Ltd. — GUIDO BONETT, 76 Valley Road, B'Kara, Malta.

TRAPPING AND TREACLING.—Trapping in the Cévennes during August 1978, using a conventional mercury vapour moth trap, yielded some interesting and unusual records from at least six orders of insect. There were always a few female Oak Eggers (*Lasiocampa quercus* (Linnaeus)) attracted to the light but on one occasion a male made its appearance. Another surprise was a specimen of the Tree Grayling (*Hipparchia statilinus* Hufnagel). Winged ants invaded the light on another occasion, carpeting the ground and making observation and identification of other insects almost impossible; and on another evening two honeybees were recorded. Other interesting records for the latter half of August included a siphonurid ephemeropteran, a mantispid neuropteran, and a red damselfly (*Ceriagrion* sp.).

Treacling with a mixture made up from Pastis, black rum, Martini, beer, local red wine, honey and concentrated orange juice, which was liberally daubed over gnarled olive stumps, proved immediately effective from the first night of application. Even on nights when there was a full moon and no cloud cover moths were plentiful at the reacle but on occasions entirely absent at the light. The species most readily attracted to the treacle were the Red Underwings (*Catocala* spp.), but they had to compete with hordes of ants for food. It was noticed that during the day that various Satyrid butterflies fed off the sweet mixture.—DR. JOHN FELTWELL, 35 Fishers Road, Staplehurst, Kent, TN12 0DD.